THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA) : (a) to (c) German mining technologies for which offers have been received and agreements signed in the recent past are as under :

(i) In-pit-crusher conveyor technology at Ramagundam Opencast Project of Singareni Collieries Co. Ltd.

(ii) Introduction of appropriate technology for caving with powered supports at Chinakuri Underground mine of Eastern Coalfields Limited.

(iii) Introduction of technology for dry beneficiation of Coal at Bina Deshaling Plant of Northern Coalfields Ltd.

LOADERS UNDER FCI CARRYING LOADS OVER THE PRESCRIBED ILO STANDARD

*431. SHRI RAMANARAYAN GOSWAMI :
DR. R. K. PODDAR :

Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that several labour committees took up the matter with Food Corporation of India to compel its loaders to carry loads over and above the standard prescribed by ILO;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what is the response of the FCI management in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) and (b) The General Conference of the International Labour Organisation adopted Convention No. 127 concerning 'Maximum Weight' in June, 1967. The Convention has not been ratified by India. The Convention lays down the general principles for regulation of manual transport of loads in all branches of economic activity for which a system of labour inspection is maintained. The Supplementary Recommendation No. 128 provides that where the maximum permissible weight that may be transported manually by one adult male worker is more than 55 kgs. measures should be taken as speedily as possible to reduce it to that level.

The National Tripartite Committee on Conventions has been reviewing the Convention from time to time to explore the possibility of ratifying it. The consensus at the meeting of the Committee was to fix 50 kg as the maximum permissible weight to be carried by one worker. To begin with it was proposed to make a beginning by introducing 50 kg. packing in FCI in a phased manner.

(c) The FCI is engaged in working out the technical and economic implications of the switch-over.

SURVEY ON SC/ST LABOURERS IN URBAN AREAS

*432. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Labour Bureau has conducted any survey on the living and working conditions of labour belonging to SC/ST Communities in urban areas of the country;

(b) if so, what is the number of such surveys conducted during the last three years till date and the number of reports released; and

(c) what are the names of the urban areas which were covered by the survey ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) During the last three years, surveys on the socio-economic conditions of the Scheduled Tribes labour were conducted at two urban centres viz. Bailadila and Nagpur. During this period three reports pertaining to Surat, Ranchi and Bailadila centres in respect of ST labour were released by the Labour Bureau.